OCT 10 2006 B OCT 10 2006 B Client Reference: P-1752.000-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

Confirmation Number: 4850

IVANOV ET AL.

Application No.: 10/727,035

Group Art Unit: 2881

Filed: December 4, 2003

Examiner: Anthony G. Quash

Title: LITHOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, ILLUMINATION SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

PROVIDING A PROJECTION BEAM OF EUV RADIATION

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowability dated July 19, 2006, the Examiner has set forth "Reasons for Allowance." The Applicants respectfully traverse these Reasons. Specifically, it is submitted that the subject matter of the allowed claims are patentable for their respective recitations of claimed combinations as a whole. That is, the patentability of the claims rests on the combination of recited elements and limitations. As such, Applicants submit that no one element or limitation in particular should be deemed to impart or be required for patentability of the claims. Furthermore, Applicants also submit that the dependent claims are allowable not only for their dependence on the allowed independent claims, but also for the additional subject matter recited in each of those dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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